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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#)
SUBJECT: CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE DEMARCHE DELIVERED;
JORDANIANS RUNNING THEIR OWN CANDIDATE

REF: SECSTATE 108617

¶1. (U) Poloff delivered reftel demarche on August 7 to Khalid Takhayneh, Head of the MFA's Disarmament Section. Takhayneh expressed familiarity with the United Nations Committee Against Torture (Committee) and stated that he would be the Government of Jordan's nominee to the committee. He accepted Ms. Gaer's CV, confirmed the GOJ would attend the October 8 meeting, and expected the GOJ would support her nomination.

Post will follow up with a diplomatic note.

¶2. (SBU) Takhayneh then requested USG support for his candidacy. He expects that the GOJ Permanent Representative will deliver his official nomination to the UN Secretariat on or about August 8. He said that the GOJ seeks U.S. support for his candidacy if UNCAT receives more than five nominations. He noted that he is the only Arab and the only Muslim currently in the running and thus expects to receive Arab League and Organization of the Islamic Conference support. While expressing understanding that the U.S. does not trade votes, Takhayneh offered to exchange support for Ms. Gaer in return for U.S. support for his candidacy. Poloff requested a copy of Takhayneh's CV and said that we would report his candidacy. COMMENT: Takhayneh is a well-known and professional Embassy interlocutor and self-proclaimed human rights enthusiast (he has introduced embosfs to human rights activists) with whom Post has had a productive relationship on a wide range of issues. Although he is technically "Head of the Disarmament Section," Takhayneh's portfolio includes a variety of issues to include human rights and GOJ relations with specialized UN bodies such as IOM, UNHCR, and UNRWA. Embosfs have consistently found him substantively knowledgeable about his issue areas and an accessible Ministry contact. END COMMENT.
Hale